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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CHAU T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

DATE MAILED: 09/16/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PPE

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/524,590

Applicant(s)

KRAUSE, PHILIP R

Examiner

Chau Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
 Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-35 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim 9 contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made

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to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-11, 17, and 23-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Warnock et al. (Warnock), U.S. Patent No. 5,634,064, and further in view of Kubota, U.S. Patent No. 6,041,323.

6. As to claim 1, Warnock discloses a method of using a computer system to enhance a reader's reading of an electronic text comprising the steps of:

a) accessing, using the computer system, at least one text, each text containing at least one section of text (Abstract: viewing electronic documents by selecting an article to be displayed and displaying at least a portion of the article on an output device);

b) identifying at least one reference, contained in a section of text, to at least one concept (col. 2, lines 38-55, col. 3, lines 3-22, and Fig. 3c: document includes both article section information and section link information);

d) providing information about a reference (col. 2, line 56 – col. 3, line 2);

However, Warnock does not disclose c) identifying at least one reference, contained in at least one additional section of text, to a concept related to the concept identified in step b. In the same field of endeavor, Kubota discloses a system outputs result of search on a screen a list of titles 927 on various articles (sections of text) relating to Olympics (concept) (col. 11, line 50 – col. 12, line 3 and Fig. 11). Since

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Kubota discloses a search engine has capabilities to search the index file with a search character string (reference), returns a number of documents containing the input search character string, and displays them as electronic documents so user can access them, thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching Kubota into the method viewing electronic documents of Warnock to include at least one reference containing in at least one additional section of text to a concept related to the concept identified. By doing so, it would provide user more information to read based on the input reference from user.

7. As to claim 2, Warnock and Kubota (Warnock-Kubota) disclose wherein the section of text in step b) is displayed by the computer system (Warnock, col. 2, lines 38-55).

8. As to claim 3, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein said text displayed by the computer system contains a first reference to a concept, wherein said first reference is also contained in an index to the text, wherein a reference to said concept is identified in step 1(c) using at least one index to a text, and wherein the information provided includes a link to the reference identified in step 1(c) (Kubota, col. 12, line 60 – col. 13, line 20).

9. As to claim 4, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the computer system uses an index to store information about at least one reference to at least one concept, said

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information including a pointer to said reference to said concept (Kubota, col. 10, lines 29-48 and col. 12, line 60 – col. 13, line 20).

10. As to claims 5 and 7, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the index is a concordance (Kubota, Fig. 11: the text in the box 907 is derived from first one in the index list 927).

11. As to claim 6, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein a pointer to a reference to a concept is derived from an index of at least on text (Kubota, Fig. 11: the text in the box 907 is derived from first one in the index list 927).

12. As to claim 8, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the computer system obtains input from the user regarding the types of relationships between references to concepts to provide information about in step (d) (Kubota, col. 11, line 50 – col. 12, line 3).

13. As to claim 9, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the computer system obtains input from the user regarding the strength of relationships between related concepts to provide information about (Kubota, Abstract and col. 10, lines 29-58).

14. As to claim 10, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the computer system obtains input from the user identifying at least one text for application of this method (Kubota, Fig. 11).

15. As to claim 11, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the method of identifying related concepts comprises analyzing for the shared presence of certain words (Kubota, col. 11, line 50 – col. 12, line 3).

16. As to claim 17, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the method of identifying related concepts comprises analyzing at least one concordance of at least one text (Kubota, Fig. 11: the text in the box 907 is derived from first one in the index list 927).

17. As to claim 23, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein both references to concepts in steps (b) and (c) are included in an index of the at least one text (Kubota, Fig. 11: the text in the box 907 is derived from first one in the index list 927).

18. As to claim 24, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the information provided in step (d) includes a link providing access to a related section of text (Warnock, col. 2, line 38 – col. 3, line 2).

19. As to claim 25, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the information provided in step (d) includes presentation of a list of relationships identified between sections of at least one text (Warnock, Fig. 3c).

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20. As to claim 26, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the information provided in step (d) includes presentation of information about the relationship identified in step (c) (Warnock, Fig. 3c).

21. As to claim 27, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the information provided in step (d) includes presentation of the related section of text (Warnock, Fig. 3c).

22. As to claim 28, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the information provided in step (d) is provided on an outline of at least one text (Warnock, Fig. 3c).

23. As to claim 29, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the materials searched by the computer system are on a single computer system (Warnock, col. 3, line 63 – col. 4, line 34).

24. As to claim 30, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the materials searched by the computer system are made available through at least one computer network (Warnock, Fig. 1).

25. As to claim 31, Warnock-Kubota disclose wherein the user is provided with an index of concepts referred to in at least one text, said index containing the following features:

a) ability to sort the index (Kubota, col. 11, line 57 – col. 12, line 3 and Fig. 14); and

26. b) information regarding the frequency and location of discussions of the concepts (Kubota, Abstract, col. 9, line 63 – col. 10, line 64 and col. 10, lines 29-48).

27. Claims 32-35 are corresponding method, system, and memory storage claims containing similar limitations as the methods described in claims.

28. Claims 12-16 and 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Warnock and Kubota as applied to claims 1-11, 17, and 23-35 above, and further in view of Buguraev, U.S. Patent No. 6,212,494.

29. As to claim 12, Warnock-Kubota disclose all the limitations as discussed in claims 1-11 above. However, Warnock-Kubota do not disclose wherein the method of identifying related concepts comprises analyzing for the shared presence of combinations of certain words in a specific order and within a specified proximity of one another. In the same field of endeavor, Buguraev discloses a method for creating a catalog comprising key terms, properties thereof, relations involving those key terms for a given topic comprises clustering key terms on the basis of proximity in terms of their relative position in the text (col. 4, line 60 – col. 5, line 48). Since Buguraev teaches a method for creating a glossary, index, help database or the like, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have

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incorporated the index method of Buguraev into the search system of Warnock and Kubota to include gathering key terms on the basis of proximity in terms of relative position in the text. By doing so, it would create an online help database useful in providing online assistance to users in performing a task.

30. As to claim 13, Warnock-Kubota and Buguraev (Warnock-Kubota-Buguraev) disclose wherein the method of identifying related concepts comprise analyzing for shared patterns of word usage that are recognized by the computer system to relate to a concept (Buguraev, col. 4, line 60 – col. 5, line 48).

31. As to claim 14, Warnock-Kubota-Buguraev disclose wherein the method of identifying related concepts comprises analyzing for the shared presence of at least one word that appears in the text with a specified frequency relative to other words (Buguraev, col. 4, line 60 – col. 5, line 48).

32. As to claim 15, Warnock-Kubota-Buguraev disclose wherein the method of identifying related concepts comprises analyzing for the presence of a synonym of at least one word (Buguraev, col. 4, line 60 – col. 5, line 48).

33. As to claim 16, Warnock-Kubota-Buguraev disclose wherein the method of identifying related concepts comprises analyzing for the shared citation of related sources (Buguraev, col. 4, line 60 – col. 5, line 48).

34. As to claim 18, Warnock-Kubota-Buguraev disclose wherein the method of identifying related concepts comprises analyzing commands embedded within text (Buguraev, col. 4, line 60 – col. 5, line 48).

35. As to claim 19, Warnock-Kubota-Buguraev disclose wherein the method of identifying related concepts is based on statistical analysis of word usage (Buguraev, col. 4, line 60 – col. 5, line 48).

36. As to claim 20, Warnock-Kubota-Buguraev disclose wherein concepts are considered to be related when the concepts are identical (Buguraev, col. 4, line 60 – col. 5, line 48).

37. As to claim 21, Warnock-Kubota-Buguraev disclose wherein concepts are considered to be related when one concept is included within another (Buguraev, col. 4, line 60 – col. 5, line 48).

38. As to claim 22, Warnock-Kubota-Buguraev disclose wherein two concepts are considered to be related when they are the both related to a third concept (Buguraev, col. 4, line 60 – col. 5, line 48).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chau Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-4639. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild, can be reached at (703) 305-9792.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application is assigned are as follows:


(703) 746-7238 (After Final Communications only)

(703) 746-7239 (Official Communications)

(703) 746-7240 (for Official Status Inquiries, Draft Communications only)

Inquiries of a general nature relating to the general status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the 2100 Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Chau Nguyen
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2176



SANJIV SHAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER